

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 02466 221259Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /047 W
-----073642 222009Z /64
R 221214Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9024
INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 2466

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, SCUL, AG, RO
SUBJECT: ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR VIEWS ALGERIA

1. AMBASSADOR HAYNES HAD A TOUR D'HORIZON WITH ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR LAZARESCU ON AUGUST 21. LAZARESCU IS OPEN AND FRIENDLY EAST-EUROPEAN AMBASSADOR WHO HAS BEEN IN ALGIERS SINCE 1975.

2. LAZARESCU STATED THAT GOA APPEARS CONCERNED THAT TROUBLE BETWEEN VARIOUS PALESTINE LIBERATION FACTIONS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE MENTORS COULD ERUPT IN ALGIERS. HE PASSES THE IRAQI EMBASSY DAILY. SINCE IRAQI-PALESTINIAN SHOOTOUT IN PARIS, IRAQI EMBASSY HERE HAS BEEN GUARDED BY CARFULL OF ARMED ALGERIAN POLICE, IN ADDITION TO NORMAL FOOT PATROLMAN AT GATE. IN ADDITION, ALGERIAN CHAUFFEUR OF IRAQI CHARGE TOLD ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR'S CHAUFFEUR THAT FORMER HAD TO SUBMIT TO THOROUGH BODY SEARCH BY ALGERIAN POLICE EACH TIME HE ENTERS IRAQI EMBASSY COMPOUND. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST HARD INFORMATION EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED THAT GOA MAY BECOMING NERVOUS OVER POSSIBLE INTERNAL PALESTINE LIBERATION GROUP SQUABBLE HERE. END COMMENT.

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3. WHEN AMBASSADOR HAYNES NOTED U.S. HAS BEEN WAITING SEVERAL MONTHS TO SIGN CULTURAL ACCORD WITH GOA, LAZARESCU LAUGHED. ROMANIAN-ALGERIAN CULTURAL AGREEMENT HAS BEEN AWAITING ALGERIAN SIGNATURE FOR OVER A YEAR, HE SAID, AND HE HAS NO IDEA WHEN, AND IF, IT WILL BE SIGNED.

4. LAZARESCU THEN RECOUNTED CURRENT ROMANIAN CULTURAL

PROBLEM WITH GOA. AS PART OF ROMANIAN NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION HERE, LAZARESCU HAD ARRANGED FOR VISIT BY ROMANIAN DANCE TROOP TO ALGIERS. NOW, HOWEVER, IN SPITE OF PREVIOUS ASSURANCES OF HELP, MFA OFFICE OF PROTOCOL HAS REFUSED ANY ASSISTANCE RE DANCE TROOP, AND ROMANIANS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND APPROPRIATE FACILITIES IN ALGIERS. HOWEVER, MAYOR OF ORAN HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL AND LAZARESCU IS HOLDING MAJOR NATIONAL DAY FETE WITH DANCE TROOP IN ORAN. LAZARESCU NOTED THAT HIS PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH GOA CULTURAL MINISTER WERE VERY BAD AND COMMENTED, "MAYBE HE PICKED UP BAD HABITS WHEN HE WAS ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW."HAYNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, TERRORISTS, CULTURAL EXCHANGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ALGIER02466
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780343-0705
Format: TEL
From: ALGIERS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780835/aaaabcyj.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 18c5bf5d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1654101
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR VIEWS ALGERIA
TAGS: PINS, SCUL, AG, RO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/18c5bf5d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014